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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

~~INTELLIGENCE REPORT~~

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COUNTRY Lebanon/Iraq/Palestine

SUBJECT Soviet and Communist Activity
in Lebanon

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SUPPLEMENT 25X1X6

25X1X6 Soviet Activity

1. The Soviet Government has reportedly instructed Russian Minister Solod in Beirut to submit a full statement on the number of foreign institutions in Lebanon, the number of employees in each, and an approximate estimate of the annual budgets of these various institutions.
2. Solod has instructed Nicola Shawi, President of the Lebanese Communist Party, to expedite a study of Lebanese personalities who are either on good terms with the Americans or are definitely collaborating with them.
3. The Soviet Legation in Beirut is also reported to have written officially to Khalid Baghdash, President of the Syrian Communist Party, inquiring whether or not the Syrian Party could run a secret broadcasting station, should something new turn up on the international horizon. Baghdash was instructed to express an opinion as to where he would prefer to set up such a station- in northern Syria or in Iraq.
4. Solod has also asked Moscow about the nature of the help it could lend the Arab front in Palestine. He suggested aid in arms, as a demand for this had been made by certain Arab quarters and urged that he be sent a quick reply.
5. Ismail Abd-al-Qadir, former member of the Iraqi parliament and at present representative of the Iraqi Communist Party in Damascus, allegedly wrote to Solod assuring him that Soviet help to Kurdish tribes in northern Iraq had reached its destination, but that the quantities were too small. These quantities could only keep a hundred men going for a little more than a month.

Communist Activity

6. The Soviet Legation has prescribed that a sum of 5,000 LL, a part of the general subsidy from the Soviet Legation not accounted for by the Lebanese Communist Party, should be placed at the disposal of the committee in charge of a new magazine, al-Hidarah al-Jadidah, which has just appeared.

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7. Solod has also requested that the Communist Party appoint a special liaison officer to take charge of financial transactions between the Party and the Legation. The Party has appointed Farid Farah to fill this office.
8. Acting at the suggestion of Solod, Dr. George Hanna has been working to tie up the Communist Party with the Opposition in Lebanon. Points of difference are being carefully studied, and Amir Nuhad Arslan, member of the Opposition, is reportedly enthusiastic over the proposed understanding.
9. The Central Committee of the Lebanese Communist Party has decided to respond favorably to a plea of the Arab Communist Party in Palestine and to publish for them all literature which cannot be published in Palestine.

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